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PP RUEHAG RUEHAST RUEHDA RUEHDBU RUEHDF RUEHFL RUEHIK RUEHKW RUEHLA  
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RUEATRS/DEPT OF TREASURY WASHDC

UNCLAS BUDAPEST 000301

SENSITIVE  
SIPDIS

EUR FOR JLAMORE, SSHIRATORI; EEB FOR DFREUDENWALD,  
CLAITINEN; TREASURY FOR DSCHMERIN, LNORTON

E.O. 12958: N/A

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SUBJECT: HUNGARY SUPPORTS KOSOVO'S IMF AND WORLD BANK  
MEMBERSHIP BID

REF: SECSTATE 33629

HUNGARY SUPPORTIVE OF KOSOVO'S IMF AND WORLD BANK MEMBERSHIP  
BID

11. (SBU) Charge delivered reftel demarche to Andras Simor,  
Hungarian Central Bank Governor and Hungary's IMF governor,  
and to Laszlo Keller, Hungarian Ministry of Finance Senior  
State Secretary and Hungary's alternate World Bank governor.  
Both indicated that Hungary strongly supports IMF and World  
Bank Membership for Kosovo, and that Hungary intends to vote  
affirmatively in support of membership. Keller noted that  
even though there will likely be changes in ministry  
personnel in Hungary with the election of a new prime  
minister, support for Kosovo's IMF and World Bank Membership  
is "the position of the Hungarian Republic, and does not  
depend on who fills the position of State Secretary."

GOVERNMENT CHANGES TO IMPACT HUNGARY'S WORLD BANK GOVERNOR,  
BUT NOT IMF

12. (U) Changes announced by incoming Prime Minister Gordon  
Bajnai will impact Hungary's World Bank governor's, but not  
its IMF representatives. Hungary's current World Bank  
governor is former Finance Minister Janos Veres and the  
alternate is Finance Ministry Senior State Secretary Keller.  
Newly elected Prime Minister Gordon Bajnai announced April 14  
that he is nominating Deloitte Hungary CEO Peter Oszko to  
replace Veres. Press reports indicate that Keller is also to  
be replaced, most likely by former Finance Ministry  
Administrative State Secretary Tamas Katona.

13. (U) The position of Hungary's IMF Governor - Central Bank  
Governor Andras Simor, is not impacted by the change in  
government. In addition, Hungary's alternate governor -  
Finance Ministry State Secretary Almos Kovacs, is expected to  
remain in his current position. Simor told charge he expects  
to attend the Spring IMF/World Bank meetings in Washington.  
Levine